

In-Fur-Nation

And the ConFurence Chronicle

Volume 8 Number 3

All The News We Get, We Print!

July, 1998

Dragon, dragon! Not lizard...

ConFurence carries on as we kiss El Nino goodbye! Look ahead and find out more about preparations for our first big spring-time furry gathering here in California. But first, here's the news...

Walt Disney Pictures' latest animated feature, *Mulan*, premiered on June 19th after receiving (for the most part) very rave reviews all around. The film was #2 at the box office its premier weekend, bringing in about \$23 million domestically. (#1 was the *X-Files* movie.) The directors of *Mulan* are **Barry Cook** and **Tony Bancroft** – the latter of whom would be best known to furry fans as the animator of Pumbaa in *The Lion King*. Tony's twin brother **Tom Bancroft** is the lead animator of Mushu, the snappy-tongued miniature dragon in *Mulan* with the voice of **Eddie Murphy**. Speaking of Mr. **Murphy**, his non-musical remake of the classic 1960's talking animal film *Dr. Doolittle* is also doing quite well at the box office.

Columbia/Tristar's intended summer blockbuster *Godzilla*, written by **Roland Emmerich** and **Dean Devlin** and directed by Emmerich, disappointed many in that it did not take over the world. True, its \$55 million take over its opening weekend places it among the top ten of all time. But it had been hoped by many (and even expected by a few) that it would top the all-time record of \$90 million over Memorial Day weekend – a record set last year by *The Lost World – Jurassic Park*.

Coming soon are two new original video animation sequel-productions from Disney: *Pocahontas - Journey to a New World* and the long-awaited *The Lion King – Simba's Pride*. *PJTANW* finds the famous native American and her animal friends Meeko, Flit, and Percy on a trip to England in search of John Smith. It comes to video on August 25th. *Simba's Pride* follows the adventures and growing pains of Kiara, Simba and Nala's daughter; and Kovu, Scar's lost son by way of a lioness named Vitani. *TLKSP* will be available October 27th. An excerpt from *TLKSP* featuring the new song "We Are One" has already been shown on ABC, and is also on the current Disney sing-along video tape (which also features songs from *Mulan*). Special limited-edition prints will be available exclusively at your local Disney Store for pre-ordering copies of *PJTANW* or *TLKSP*.

Two from the out-of-nowhere department... *The Mighty Kong* is an animated musical version of *King Kong*, featuring the voice talents of **Jodi Benson** (from Disney's *The Little Mermaid*) and **Dudley Moore**.

After a very brief run in the theaters, it went straight to video tape – you can find it on Warner Home Video. Currently still in the theaters (as of this writing) is the live-action film *Passion in the Desert*, from Fine Line Features. Based on a short story by **Honoré de Balzac**, this film features British actor **Ben Daniels** as a soldier in Napoleon's army who becomes lost in the Sahara, until he is lead to an oasis by a female leopard. There, the two of them develop a strong bond... possibly, a very strong bond. Look for it coming to a local art-house theater near you.

New out on video is a 'feature-length' compilation of three episodes of *Ninja Turtles: The Next Mutation*. This recent TV series features the boys, their Ninja master Splinter, and a newly discovered female turtle in battle against a dragon lord and his reptilian minions. From Fox Home Video.

Dragon League, one of the more unusual anime 'sports shows' ever made, is coming to home video finally. Imagine a magical world populated with humans, furries, and sentient dinosaurs, where soccer (football) is treated almost as a religion. (It's been called *Narnia* meets *Dinotopia* meets the World Cup.) The TV series follows the adventures of young Tokio (a human) as he tries to whip a second-rate team into shape, and save his father from a strange curse. Episodes 1 and 2 are available now on one tape, in Japanese with English subtitles.

More furry anime, or anime with furries... *Night Warriors* from Viz Video, based on a popular video game, is a fast-paced adventure featuring vampires, ghosts, demons... and a cat-girl named Felicia. In Volume 3, *Darkstalker's Revenge*, Felicia even befriends a werewolf. Available in both subtitled and English-dubbed versions.

Yet more new animation-oriented cable/satellite TV channels are coming your way soon. Sony Pictures will launch a 24-hour satellite channel called ANIMAX, dedicated to Japanese animation. Created with the cooperation of Toei Animation, Sunrise, Kyokuichi Corporation and Nippon Animation, ANIMAX will be available soon as part of the SkyPerfect TV! digital platform. Also, Hallmark Entertainment and The Jim Henson Company have joined forces to launch a new global pay-TV channel, The Kermit Channel, in September of this year.

New from Image Comics is *The Mechanic* by **Joe Chioldo** and **Johnathan Peterson**. (Released under the Homage Comics imprint.) A robot, a caveman, and a small raptor are captured by a far-future scientist, and special powers and abilities are bestowed upon them to help them survive in the strange new world they find.

Coming soon from Anti-Ballistic Pixelations is the first *Gremlin Trouble* trade paperback, collecting issues 1 through 6 of E.T. and Elizabeth Bryan's anime/fantasy/humour/adventure comic. Over 200 pages in black & white.

Also collected for the first time in trade paperback (three volumes to be exact) is Teri S. Wood's acclaimed science-fiction black & white comic *Wandering Star*. Each volume will also feature never-before-seen artwork from this series, which follows a young human woman's coming of age as she and her alien companions struggle through an intergalactic war.

From Basement Comics comes *Jungle Tales: Mature Version #1*. This 40 page black & white comic collects material of women and dinosaurs deemed 'too explicit' for the regular *Cavewoman* comic series. It also includes a full-color poster.

MU Press presents the long-awaited black & white 3-issue mini-series *CyberKitties*, written by Paul Kidd. This wild cyberpunk furry adventure/comedy features a large roster of furry artists in every issue, including Eric Blumrich, Adrian Kleinenberg, Chuck Melville, Tom Millorin, Justin Norman, Mike Raabe, Toivo Rovainen, and Pete Stoller. MU informs us that the comic series has already been optioned to be a new animated series in Japan.

Moon Beast is a new horror anthology series from ACG Comics, featuring stories about werewolves. Issue #1 features black & white stories by Steve Ditka, Pete Morisi, and others.

Hand of Doom Publications bring us *Peter Pan and the Warlords of Oz*, written and illustrated by Rob Hand. Peter and the Lost Boys (and the crocodile, named Tick-Tock) journey into the legendary land of Oz, and stumble across a war about to break out.

Two new full-color comic books from Nature Publishing House, intended as science teaching tools. In *Rain Forest Adventure* by James Passmore, a young girl is hit with a mysterious transformative chemical in a blow-gun dart, and her family must embark upon a journey through a dense rainforest to find a cure. In *Wildlife Adventure* by Stu Duval, an American ranger and his family help an African friend, Colonel Rhino, fight off poachers in an African preserve.

New from Vision Comics is the new edition of Jose Calderon and Daphne Lage's furry fantasy series, *Tall Tales*, in a new story arc called "Fire Quest". Each issue is available with both a regular cover or a special 'nude variant' cover, featuring a pin-up type drawing of one of the story characters.

New black & white comic releases from Shanda Fantasy Arts include Charles Ettinger's *Furtual Reality* (an SFA Spotlight presentation), a fast-paced science fiction adventure.

Also look for *SFA International*, featuring *Frenchie Doudou* by Diane Sasse, which follows the story of centaurs and other horse-people in war-torn old Europe. (Similar to *Stinz* by Donna Barr) Also featured in *SFAI* are *Beans and Hay* by Rob Stone and Ken Asche, and *Looking Further*, a new column of furry comic book reviews by your humble *In-Fur-Nation* editor.

A 50th anniversary edition of George Orwell's seminal novel of political allegory, *Animal Farm*, has been released by Harcourt Brace. This special hardcover edition features over 100 full-color and half-tone illustrations by Ralph Steadman, famous for his designs used in the album and feature film of Pink Floyd's *The Wall*.

New from Overlook Press is *The Book of Sea Monsters* by Nigel Suckling. A historical study of creatures as diverse as the Midgard serpent and the Loch Ness Monster, this paperback features numerous full-color illustrations by Hugo-Award winning artist Bob Eggleton (cover artist for Robert J. Sawyer's Quintaglio Ascension series).

Photomosaics, the computerized art form created by Robert Silvers where he creates images by carefully blended selected smaller images together enters a new realm with the release of Disney's *Photomosaics*. Mr. Silvers turns his art to the creation of several well-known Disney animated characters.

From Warner Books comes *Sesame Street Unpaved* by David Borgenicht and others. Celebrating the 30th anniversary of this world-famous educational TV show, the book features not only backgrounds on the production team and the major players (both human and Muppet), but also actual scripts, cast interviews, celebrity visits, and lots and lots of behind-the-scenes color photos. In Hardcover.

Anne Rice's sister, Alice Borchardt, has written a much-anticipated book called *The Silver Wolf* (hardcover, from Del Ray/Ballantine) which is reported to do for werewolves what her sister's work did for vampires. In the days of turmoil following the fall of Imperial Rome, a young lady werewolf struggles to survive threats both political and personal in strife-torn Europe.

In *Greenmantle* by fantasy author Charles DeLint, we have a different sort of conflict: What if a gang of mobsters went head-to-head with the land of fey? What sounds like a violent blow-up is actually a lyrical tale of a young teenage girl named Ali, whose gift is magick. She and her friends, such as The Stag and a fox-faced girl named Mally, must use their wits to face the mobsters' threat. From Tor/St.Martin's Press.

Speaking of magick, the hero of Tanya Huff's novel *Summon the Keeper* has her own problems. The ancient house that she has been placed in charge of is just brimming with magick and spirits, to say nothing of the human forces fighting for control of it. Oh well, at least she has her talking cat, Austin, to provide her with advice. In paperback, from DAW Books.

ConFurence has *Stuff!* The original Furry Convention is proud to present the ConFurence General Store. Two of our popular T-Shirt designs are still available for a limited time: "Furries in Force" (black on honey-color) by **Eric Schwartz** from CF7, and "Furries in Love" (black and pink on grey) by **Rachael Cawley** from CF9. Plus, we still offer *ConFurence Seven Highlights Video*, and coming soon is *ConFurence Eight - Music and Mirth*. (Watch this space for an announcement!) Not to mention many cool prints and extra Souvenir Books! Look for the order form from The General Store attached to the back of this very issue of *In-Fur-Nation*.

A Request to Our Readers: Hey, got a favorite comic or book store that carries your favorite furry titles, or that you wish would carry more? Give us their address! We'll send them a copy of In-Fur-Nation each quarter, and keep them abreast of the kind of comics and media that you would like to see on their shelves! Remember, they can't order it if they don't know it's out there! *An alternate:* Know of any good comic review zines or web sites that might be looking to trade issues?

Guess what? In-Fur-Nation wants Reporters! Actually, interviewers... as a new feature, we're going to present profiles of furry creators and furry-oriented companies that are helping to promote products and media of interest to funny animal fans all over. So, like to help out? Know a comic book creator, animator, publisher, or other such person in the field who'd like to discuss what furries mean to them, or to the world? Talk to them, write down what they say... give them a write-up, about 300-500 words, and we'll include it as a blurb in an upcoming INF, and give you credit for it. [We do maintain the right to edit for clarity and length, mind you.] Send hard copies to the ConFurence address, or, you can e-mail your submission to cd-otter **Rod O'Riley** at mink@firstlight.net.

Advertising in In-Fur-Nation. For those who've been asking, ads in In-Fur-Nation come in these sizes: 1/8-page "business card" size for \$5.00 per issue, and 1/4-page size (4 1/2" tall by 3 1/4" wide) for \$10.00 per issue. Full-page inclusions can also be arranged for \$50.00 an issue. Check should be made out to ConFurence. Send camera-ready art and text to P.O. Box 1958, Garden Grove, CA 92642-1958.

(Many thanks to the people who helped provide information for this issue, both by mail and via Internet!)

...I don't do that tongue thang! [Mushu, dragon, from *Mulan*]

Here We Go Again With The Winning Words!

At ConFurence Nine, **Kay Shapero** became only the second person ever to win the Furry Filk Contest for a second time! Here then are the lyrics to her winning song, as chosen by the fans themselves.

Hollow Hills

Words and music c. 1998 by Kay Shapero

*They are tall and very fragile, yet they seem to live forever
And they come out of the places where our people do not dare
They bring music out of nowhere and a light into the shadow
For there's magic in the places that they fare.
The bring gifts to those they favor, and bring death to the unwary
Or, capriciously they steal away our kind.
Fearsome hunters, joyous singers, folk of terror, folk of wonder
Form a puzzle with a key we cannot find.*

Who are these dwellers in the Hollow Hills?

We are but your distant cousins, though our ways were split asunder

*When you sought the forest and we took the plain
Call us ludi, call us humans, or a thousand other words that
Mean the creature with the ever-searching brain.
Past our needs of pure survival lies a never-ending hunger
All the secrets of the universe to know.
And from you, our gentle neighbors do we seek an understanding
Of the path we left behind so long ago.*

We are the dwellers in the Hollow Hills.

And here's a look at Coming Attractions...

More Furry Conventions All Around!

Seems like furry cons are starting to sprout all over the place! Her's a quick look at the ones we know about... hopefully, we'll meet YOU at some of them ourselves!

Conifur Northwest '98

"*Furries in Seattle*"
September 4-6, 1998, Clarion Hotel by the Sea-Tac Airport
\$82 basic room rate; call (206) 242-0200 or 1-800-CLARION and be sure to mention Conifur Northwest.

GOH: Diana Vick

Conifur Northwest's goal in our first year is to be a relatively small and relaxed con, yet with all the usual amenities: Dealer's room (**Mel. White, Michele Light, Terrie Smith**, and many others have already confirmed that they will attend!), art show, artist's alley, video room, and programming with a twist. As much as possible, the programming will consist of interactive workshops and "how-to's" on subjects such as drawing, short-story writing, and publishing — although Mel. White and Glen Wooten will be reprising their excellent panel on copyrights.

Registration: \$25 until the con, and \$30 at the door.

Our contact address is cfnw-info@picarefy.com, but the best way to find out about Confur Northwest at our web page, <http://www.picarefy.com/confur>. We also have a mailing list for announcements; to subscribe, send email to majordomo@picarefy.com with "SUBSCRIBE confur" in the body.

The Mephit Furmeet '98

September 4-7, 1998

Holiday Inn - Memphis East, Memphis, Tennessee

Special Guest: **Bill Holbrook**, creator of *Kevin & Kell*

Registration is \$25.00 for attending and \$15.00 for supporting. Dealer tables are only \$10.00 – but supplies are limited!

Hotel rates are \$75.00 for 1-4 furs. Call (800) Holiday, ask for the Memphis HI, and mention Mephit Furmeet.

For more information on events and other stuff, check out their web page: www.mfn.home.ml.org. The head tiger in charge can be reached at: growltiger@mindspring.com.

Further Confusion, 1999

January 14 – 17, 1999, The Westin Santa Clara, California

A brand new furry convention for California, right in the heart of Silicon Valley. Designed to promote a sense of community within Furry Fandom.

Guests of Honor include animator/artist **Ken Mitchrone**, and fury costumer/prop designer/artist **Ed Kline**. Plus more to be announced coming soon.

Rooms at the Westin Santa Clara will be available for \$85.00 per night for singles or doubles, if you register before December 21st, 1998. Call (408) 986-0700, or 1-800-WESTIN1 outside the local area, for reservations.

Registration for membership is \$30.00 until December 1st, 1998, then \$35.00 at the door. For more information (including the art show, dealers' room, and programming) write to: **Further Confusion**, P.O. Box 1299, Cupertino, CA 95015-1299, or e-mail them at info@furtherconfusion.org. And be sure to check out their home web site at <http://www.furtherconfusion.org>.

And then, again, we welcome you back where you started...

ConFurence Ten – A Look Back at Ten Furry Years!

We've been at this for a while, and after ten years of gathering furry fandom together, we thought we'd step back and take a look at where we've been – and where we're going! We'd love you to come along and help us.

Programming – What's To Be Done?

Here's where you come in... we'd like your input on how we can go about making our celebration of the past ten years as fun and interesting as it can be. What things happened for you at ConFurences Zero through Nine that you think we should re-visit, or salute with special programming? What new things should we try now to begin our second decade? We want you to tell us! Write us or e-mail us at the ConFurence address today, won't you?

The Guests

Last time around we told you about our first two Guest of Honor for ConFurence Ten, folksinger **Cynthia McQuillin** and artist/illustrator **Mary Hanson-Roberts**. Now, we're glad as anything to tell you we've added three more to the list! From that so-furry town of Minneapolis (oh all right, NEAR there!) we welcome our literary Guest of Honor, **Patricia C. Wrede**. Patricia has written several ingenious and humorous – at times, down right hilarious – fantasy novels and short stories. But she's likely best known for her *Enchanted Forest Chronicles*. These unusual fantasy novels (*Dealing with Dragons* is the first, followed by three more) are chock full of brave and resourceful princesses, silly princes, melting wizards, clever witches... and lots and lots of noble talking dragons, talking cats, talking lizards, and what have you! We're happy as anything to welcome Ms. Wrede to ConFurence as our Guest... now you, run out and pick up her latest short story collection *The Book of Enchantments*.

Also from the mid-west, ConFurence Ten is proud to welcome as our Special Guests the Ozfoxes, **Robert** and **Margaret Carspecken**. You've seen their stories and illustrations in fanzines and comics all over the place (*Ever-Changing Palace*, the fanzine for Vicki Wyman's *Xanadu* comic has featured them frequently). But were you aware that they also are involved in numerous real-animal welfare efforts? And, were you aware that Margaret has published *Sweet Treats* – which has to be the first furry-oriented cookbook ever? Now you are! Hey, make sure to check out the Carspeckens' Web site at www.ozfoxes.com – and, make sure to come and see them at ConFurence Ten!

And who else is joining us at Ten? Folks you know like **Larry and Onci Adams**, **Steve Addlesee**, **Mitchell Biero**, **E.T.** and **Elizabeth Bryan**, **John and Rachel Cawley**, **Jimmy Chin**, **Mike and Carole Curtis**, **Steve Gallacci**, **Roz Gibson**, **Jim Great**,

James Hardiman, Arlene Harris, Daphne Lage, Michele Light, Michael-Scoot McMurry, Lex Nakashima, John Nunnemacher, Joe and Trish Ny, Fred Patten, Dusty Rhodes, Ted Sheppard, Terrie Smith, Jefferson Swycaffer, Mel White, Eli Winkler, Tommy Yune, and numerous well-known artists and writers from YARF!, MU Press, Vision, and Radio Comix! And many more! But remember, the face we always most want to see there most is *yours*! So drop on in and join the celebration!

You Gotta See Our New Hotel

We've told you about the Town & Country Resort, part of San Diego's Hotel Circle in Mission Valley. We continue to work with them to help ensure that they're ready for us, and we're ready for them! Just about got our lay-out for the convention worked out, with the Den of Dealers and the Lecture Hall/Cabaret on one side; the Art Show, Video, and Filk stuff along the other side, and the various Lounges and things spread about the middle. (This means something if you know the hotel, believe us!)

We've even had a chance to try out the nearby Trolley service, just north of the hotel/resort. Know what? It's really neat having several malls and mini-malls only a few steps and a couple dollars away! It opens up so many possibilities of places to eat.

Room rates for ConFurence Ten at the Town & Country are \$85.00 per night, single or double; and \$95.00 per night, triple or quad. For reservations, call (800) 854-2608, or the local number (619) 291-7131. **Important As Ever:** Make sure to call during business hours (M-F 9 am - 5 pm, pacific time), and make sure to mention ConFurence. And if you need it, we'll soon have information on the smaller hotels just across the freeway from our main hotel. Stay tuned!

The Den of Dealers

As of this writing, the Den of Dealers for ConFurence Ten is nearly *Sold Out*! If you're looking for a place to sell your furry wares in the Den of Dealers 1999, please write us or e-mail us soon for more information. If you've already reserved a Den of Dealers table, keep your eyes on the mail — Your information packet, asking you questions about your specific needs at your table(s), will be coming around soon.

The Artists' Alley remains one of the most popular (and populated!) features of any ConFurence, and the Alley at ConFurence Ten will be just plain huge! These tables in the pre-concave area (near the Den of Dealers) are available free of charge on a first-come, first-served basis at the con itself, and need to be signed up for each morning. Trust us — there's a lot of room, but they *will* fill up! Write to **Rod O'Riley** at the ConFurence address (or e-mail to vinson@netcom.com) for more information about table space.

The Art Show

ConFurence's art show is, simply put, one of the largest SF/fantasy art displays in the western United States. Believe us, if you do art of funny animals, furries, monsters, aliens, toons, or even real animals, you **want** to be in this art show! But our show **will** fill up — so get in your reservations as soon as you can! Your first art show space (4 ft. by 4 ft., horizontal or vertical) is still available **free** with your paid supporting or attending membership — all you have to do is claim it *in writing*. Additional art show spaces are available for a low \$5.00 each. We also have an extensive Print Shop available for selling copies of your work. So get your reservations in today! What, you can't make it to ConFurence? No problem! Reserve your space, and mail us your art before the con — we'll set it up, send you back what may not sell, and get you off a check for your sold items! **Important Stuff** — We have an extensive Art Show Registration 'instruction sheet' available that explains all the ins and outs of displaying and selling art, sculpture, prints, or whatever at ConFurence Ten. It's vital that you know these things and fill out the paperwork completely to help our Art Show Department keep track of everything! Write to **Donald Poe** at the ConFurence address (or e-mail him at the ConFurence web page, www.confurence.com) and we'll send the packet off to you right away! Don't delay! Write today!

In 1999, we take stock of where we've been... and bring our Traditions with us!

The Cabaret Fur le Dance

Once again, at our new home in San Diego, we plan to bring you another truly magical evening of furry entertainment at our famous charity stage show. The kind of entertainment you take with you when you go! Dancers, singers, costumes, comedians, magicians — we've seen them all, and we want to see more! Maybe you have an idea for an act yourself? Why not try it out on the ConFurence staff — you just might find yourself on stage in front of a few hundred screaming friends! Write to **Michael Underwood** at the ConFurence address for all the de-tails! (Remember, all performers in the Cabaret **must** be able to first attend a special pre-planning meeting on Friday night, April 2, at ConFurence!)

A Look at the Past, an Ear to the Future, and a Party in San Diego!

ConFurence Ten! What's happening? More of what we're famous for, that's what: **Meetings**, discussions, how-to workshops and round-tables on dozens of furry topics, from art and writing to animation, computers, games, and even meeting other fans of your favorite animal species. The Saturday afternoon **Costume Presentation**, with everyone voting for the best costumes — and more helpful how-to sessions with the costume makers and designers.

Plus, the return of the **FurSuit Lounge** and the popular **Furry Dance** outside on Saturday night! **Food**, including our Ice Cream Social and Saturday Night Furry Feed, right next to the pool! **Computer** networking, art, and animation on display, plus the return of the Internet Room. **Games**, both paper and electronic, cards and role-playing, and everywhere in-between. **Dances**, no less than three of them! **Filking** through the night, including our popular Furry Filksong Contest, and another special filk/folk concert. **Sketching** by literally dozens of artists of every size, shape, and style. And that's just the stuff we normally have. Keep your eye out for special presentations in honor of our tenth anniversary furry convention. Plus, given our new location in time and space, we're planning some special events (like **Easter** and **Passover** services at the con) and special offers (like discounted tickets to **Sea World** and the **San Diego Zoo**) that we think you'll find very interesting!

Okay, So What's The Price?

Registration to ConFurence Ten works like this: All memberships are \$25.00 for a full three-days **Attending**, from now until **January 1st, 1999**. From **January 2nd, 1999 until March 15th, 1999**, three-day **Attending** memberships are available for \$30.00, and after that, at-the-door for \$35.00. Plus, a full year of In-Fur-Nation, and our special annual ConFurence Souvenir Collection Book, are all included in the price of your membership! A single art show display space is also included **free** with your membership — if you write us and claim it!

And remember, we'd love to have you join us, but if you cannot make it out to our nest, please feel free to join ConFurence as a **Supporting member**! Supporting members get a full year's subscription to In-Fur-Nation, the Souvenir Collection Book, and one free art show display space for the taking, all for the low price of just \$15.00! And, if your fortunes change, you can convert your supporting to a full attending membership at the door for only \$15.00 more. Such a deal, amigos!

We heartily recommend that you get your memberships **now**. That provides us with the best means to keep you in touch with ConFurence over the whole year — and remember, in the extra months between now and the next ConFurence, we'll have a lot of exciting stuff to tell you!

What ConFurence Needs...

Our Sponsors

Sponsors are the excellent people who help keep ConFurence going by giving just a little extra bit (or a lot extra bit!) of financial help. This is money for transporting, lodging, and feeding our special guests, as well as off-setting complimentary memberships and hotel rooms. To become a sponsor, contribute a minimum of \$50.00 (up to \$99.00), which includes your initial membership fee.

Remember: Indicate which of our special guests this money is to help toward, or just mark it "general fund" — we'll split it among all of them. And what do you get for being a sponsor? Sponsors are the only folks (besides staff and guests) allowed in the Guest Lounge, a special place set aside where folks can relax away from the hubbub of the con. Guests and sponsors can attend special food events too, and get special seating at some of our shows (with purchase of a ticket, in some cases). And, sponsors get — our unending gratitude! (Not to mention recognition by name in the souvenir book!) Here's a note for starters — **Dusty Rhodes** (comic artist and quite a dancer too!) has let us know that he'd like to attend ConFurence 10, but he's going to need sponsorship help to do it... any takers out there? Write us!

Our Super Sponsors!

Super Sponsors are the *awesomely* special furry folk who *really* want to help out ConFurence — and who think they deserve something special in return. Super Sponsors are people willing to contribute \$100.00 or more (which includes their initial memberships) toward a special guest of their choice, or just toward the guests in general. Super Sponsors get all the same neat stuff as other Sponsors, plus an added bonus of a special VIP Lounge at ConFurence, preferred seating at several events (with ticket purchase), and other special perks — including some special gifts direct from our Guests of Honor. Don't have \$100.00 sitting around handy? Make installments! That's right, we'll take two payments of \$50.00, or four payments of \$25.00 — it still counts you as a Super Sponsor, as long as it totals \$100.00 by the time of the con itself.

ConFurence Needs YOU...

... to join our staff and help put on one of the fastest growing fannish conventions on the West Coast! Join our team! We need volunteers to help out with all areas of the convention, from registration to art show to helping keep the fans well-fed! No experience necessary — we will train! For as little as 16 hours of work over the length of CF8 (though we won't stop you from helping more!), you can get access to our exclusive Staff and Sponsor Lounge, as well as use of our available crash space — plus, some other special goodies, and the knowledge that you've helped us pull this thing off for another year! We especially need motivated, competent furs to help us out on the Art Show Staff — it's one of the biggest parts of the con, and work on it carries on through much of the year! Write to: **Volunteers** care of the ConFurence address, or send e-mail to **Rod O'Riley** at mink@firstlight.net, and we'll send you our staff sign-up sheet and information right away! If you go to our Web site, you can even sign up for volunteer services right then and there!

Fly! Be Free!

For those who haven't heard yet, ConFurence has its own official travel agency, **Ladera Travel** of Southern California. They've specialized for years in getting good rates for travel to and from SF cons all over the world, including ours! Contact **Rick Foss** at (800) 624-6679 from outside California, or (310) 640-0527 inside California.

An Important Note Regarding Your Mailing Label

We'll admit it, we had some database troubles during the last two mailings. Do us a big favor won't you? Take a look at the mailing label on this issue of *In-Fur-Nation*. If the name or address is mis-spelled or mis-numbered in any way, please write us or e-mail us with the correct version. Thanks for helping us clean house!

Don't be left with the herd!

Keep in touch with the world of Anthropomorphics!

Join ConFurence Today!

Now let's go kick some honeybuns!



(c) 1998 SFA

ConFurenceX Membership Form

| | | |
|---------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Name | AKA (Furry/Fan name) | Phone Number (optional) |
| Address | Street | Apt/Unit |
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APRIL 1,2,3,4, 1999

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